Industry, business, homeowners and government must all work together to conserve energy. If we each save a little, we'll all save a lot.

Government of Ontario

Ontario

Ontario will play its part in resolving the Canadian energy situation. Carrying out these suggestions will help achieve the national energy conservation goals.

ENERGY

A program for voluntary action

47 things you can do to conserve energy

The biggest user of energy in your home this winter will be the heating system. Make sure the furnace or boiler is working efficiently...

1 If you have a forced-air furnace, oil the motor and bearings, and check the tension on the fan-belt. Clean the filter every month, at least.

2 On a hot-water system, bleed air from all radiators, and check the expansion tank (your fuel supplier will help if you don't know the routine). Any leaks in the system should be repaired immediately.

3 Empty the clean-out on the flue.

4 If your system hasn't been checked by an expert this year, have it done now.

...make sure the heat is going where you want it...

5 Insulate ducts or pipes which run through places where you don't need heat.

6 Keep radiators dust-free; if you paint a radiator, don't use metallic paint. Vents and registers should not be covered by carpets, drapes or furniture.

7 If you have a gravity air system with just one cold air return, keep inside doors **open** for most efficient operation.

...and make sure it doesn't get away!

8 If a room is unused, shut off its heat and close the door. If you like to sleep with your bedroom window open, keep the door closed.

9 Storm windows make a big difference too. Make sure they fit well; caulk them, to make sure. Storm doors and outside doors should be checked for fit, and weatherstripped if necessary. Check putty in windows and doors—loose glass lets in the cold. And when you close a window, lock it for a tighter seal. If you don't have storms on basement windows, a sheet of clear plastic will do a good job, cheaply.

10 An open fire is the least efficient way of heating a home, because it loses so much heat up the chimney. Always close the damper when the fireplace is not in use.

11 Range hood ventilators expel warm air and should not be operated longer than necessary.

12 Good insulation may cost you a fair amount of money, but it's a good long-term investment in these days of rising fuel costs. Look at attics, crawl spaces and basement walls first; they're easy to do yourself. A contractor can insulate hollow walls.

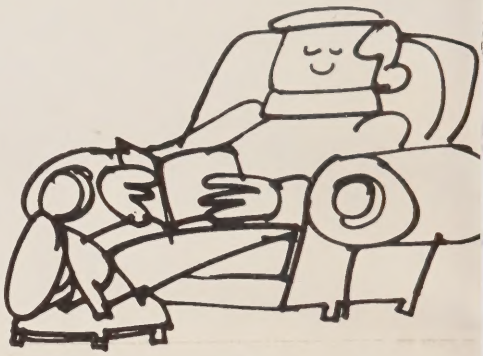
13 Blinds and drapes keep the heat in on dull days and in the evening...but open them when the sun shines.

14 It takes more heat to stay comfortable when the air is dry. Use a humidifier, and you should be able to turn the thermostat down.

Some thoughts on the thermostat.

15 Can you lower your thermostat setting? Each degree cuts fuel consumption about 3%.

16 If your heating system is in good operating condition and the house reasonably well insulated it's possible to reduce fuel consumption by setting back the thermostat each night, or when the house is empty.



17 If there's only one person in the family who feels the cold, don't turn up the heat just for him—ask him to wear a sweater.

Hot water is another big user of energy. Let's not waste it.

18 Exposed hot water pipes shoul be insulated.

19 If the heater is oil or gas-fired empty the flue clean-out. Drain gallon of water from the botton of the tank from time to time, t get rid of sediment.

20 If the heater has a dial on it, se if you can live with a lower temperature setting.

21 A dripping tap can waste as much as 175 gallons of hot wat a month—and it's easy to fix.

22 Clothes washers, dish washers shouldn't be turned on until they're fully loaded.

23 Generally, a shower uses less water than a bath.

A few other things you can do t conserve energy, in the kitchen and around the house.

24 Close your oven, refrigerator o freezer door on a piece of pap If you can pull it out easily, the seal isn't good enough.

25 If a small appliance like a toaster or frypan can do the job, use it rather than the oven

26 Don't use the dryer till it's full.

27 If you buy an electric space-heater, make sure it has a thermostat.

28 Your refrigerator and freezer will work better if you keep the condenser coil at the back free of dust, and defrost when the frost coating is ¼" thick.

29 And those Christmas lights. We can spread good cheer and still conserve energy by switching them on no earlier than 6, and off again at bedtime; and by using them only during the Christmas season.

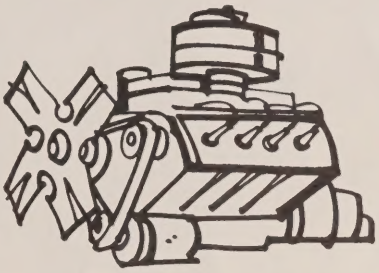
30 In the kitchen, choose saucepans that completely cover the element. Adjust gas burner so flames don't lick up the side of the pan.

31 Take time to thaw frozen food before you cook it.

32 You can save on lighting by cleaning bulbs and fixtures, by using lower wattage bulbs, and by always switching lights off when they're not needed.

33 Use as little water as you can when boiling vegetables, and turn the heat down as soon as it boils. A pressure cooker is a great economy item.

You can conserve energy on the road, too. Here are some suggestions.



34 A well-maintained car is an economical car to run. Check tuning, carburetion, lubrication —clean plugs. Are you using the right grade of fuel?

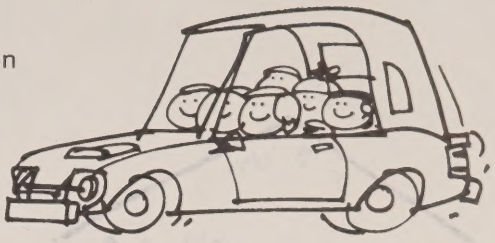
35 Check tire pressures and front wheel alignment, to ease the load on the motor.

36 50 mph is an economical highway speed. As miles per hour go up, miles per gallon go down.

37 Jack rabbit starts waste gas.

38 So does prolonged idling; when you stop, turn the engine off. Using an overnight engine heater is a more economical way of warming up a car in the morning.

39 Still got that outboard motor in the trunk? Unnecessary extra weight means extra fuel consumption.



40 A basic question, whenever you reach for the car key...**must** you drive? Could you take a bus, or walk? Or ride with someone else?

41 And do you really need such a large, powerful car?

Look around when you're at work...and ask a few questions.

42 Could the thermostat come down a few degrees?

43 Can you use the drapes or blinds to lower heat loss?

44 Is all your floodlighting really necessary?

45 Do the building's lights stay on at night, even though they're not needed?

46 Is the new building you're planning designed to make good use of energy resources?

47 Have you got an Energy Conservation Suggestion Scheme? It's when we all get together that we save the most.

The Ontario Government...a time for action.

Premier William Davis has instructed all Ministries of the Provincial Government, and its agencies, to create and put into action programs designed to conserve energy. Some programs are aimed at reducing the government's own energy consumption; others reach out to assist consumers, industry and business throughout the Province to do the same. Here are some examples of current activity.

- The Ministry of Government Services has embarked on a program to reduce heating and lighting levels, wherever possible, in all buildings owned or operated by the government.
- A long-term review of new building standards by the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations is nearing completion. The most efficient use of materials to conserve energy is a major consideration.
- The Ministry of Transportation and Communications is responsible for purchase of all government vehicles. As replacement becomes necessary, the Ministry will recommend purchase of smaller-engined compacts instead of large cars, wherever possible.
- Ontario Hydro will continue distribution of its conservation material to retail customers, and to Municipal Electric Utilities.
- Public Servants have been asked to reduce highway driving speeds, whenever practical, to improve mileage.
- The Ministry of Education has recommended a plan of action for the conservation of energy in all schools; and is putting new emphasis on curriculum guidelines for teachers wishing to develop classes in energy conservation.

ENERGY

WE CAN'T TAKE IT FOR GRANTED ANYMORE

Recent events in the Middle East have underlined just how important a dependable supply of energy is to the way we live.

With supplies of crude oil in Eastern Canada barely sufficient to meet demand, real shortages of gasoline and heating oil could occur in Ontario if we can't maintain our imports.

Alternate, more dependable forms of energy are being developed, but that will take time. What is important today is that each one of us makes the best possible use of existing energy supplies.

That means finding ways we can save energy. Using it, but not wasting it. Little ways in which you can save energy may seem insignificant, but in fact they are not. If the 7 million people of Ontario get together, work together to save in small ways, the net result will be a huge saving.

For instance, it has been estimated that if every person in Ontario saved just a penny's worth of energy every day, we'd save enough energy in a week to heat up to 2,500 homes for an entire year.

Nobody has the right to waste fuel, or any other form of power. The time has come when every one of us must take a good, hard look at the way we use energy, and do everything possible to ensure its wisest use.

Good energy habits learned now, especially by our young people, will help bring us through this winter, and pay off even more in years to come.